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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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Developments in the Soviet Party Congress

On the first day of the 19th Party Congress there were three events of major importance: an opening speech by V. M. Molotov; election of Party Congress officials; and the report of the Central Committee by G. M. Malenkov.

1. Molotov's speech: In a speech opening the 19th Party Congress and welcoming the more than 1500 delegates from the USSR and other countries of the world, Molotov set the tone for the speeches to follow by vehemently attacking the imperialist warmongers led by the United States. Claiming that the United States is responsible for the war in Korea, for splitting the world into two opposing camps, and for turning Germany and Japan into dependent states, he held that, despite these aggressive moves, the world capitalist system has been considerably weakened since World War II and is in constant and growing danger of another economic crisis. To escape the consequences of this collapse he stated that the US is "increasingly concentrating its power toward a Fascist regime." On the other hand, he characterized the USSR as a peace-loving nation which must safeguard peace through eternal vigilance and preparedness.

Comment: Molotov's routine speech of welcome offered little new concerning US-USSR relations. Indications were that the only change that could be expected in the present status of the "cold war" would be an intensification of the hate-America campaign and Soviet intransigence particularly with regard to the US.

2. Election of Party Congress officials: Following Molotov's welcoming address the Congress elected unanimously the Presidium, Credentials Committee, Secretariat, and Draft Committee. Representation included Politburo members, officials of the Central Committee, and party leaders in the Soviet Republics and oblasts. No significant indications of change in party hierarchy are apparent from an analysis of these elections.

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3. Malenkov's report for the Central Committee of the Communist Party: Malenkov's speech was divided between international and internal developments of which the latter portion is not yet available. In the international sphere Malenkov further developed and detailed the points already outlined in Stalin's recent lengthy article. Dealing with the development of two parallel world markets, he reiterated that the capitalist world is at a disadvantage because its sphere of activities has considerably narrowed and claimed that this would inevitably deepen the general crisis of world capitalist economy. The necessary increased competition among capitalist states for the ever narrowing free world market and for maximum profits will ultimately result in war between capitalist states.

Further enlarging on Stalin's article, Malenkov points to the possibility of peaceful coexistence with the capitalist world. However, he warns that the Soviet bloc must be militarily prepared for defense against the aggressive policies of the "brutal fascist regime" which the United States is introducing into its own and such other countries as France, Italy and Japan.

Malenkov further maintained that everybody knows the Soviet Union would never attack anybody. In support of his thesis he claimed that the US has created two worlds by violating agreements drawn up after World War II, and by forming NATO "behind Russia's back" as a war machine. He mentioned Korea as proof that the change from preparation for aggression to direct acts of aggression has already taken place.

Malenkov excoriated the "right wing Social Democratic parties" in Western Europe as American agents, helping the United States to turn their countries into Fascist states against the will of the people. He added, however, that "sober and progressive" politicians as well as the people were awakening to this fact, and that they could always be sure of a welcome from the "peace-loving people's democracies."

Comment: Malenkov throws open as did Stalin the possibility of a less intransigent Soviet policy toward those who are willing to divorce themselves from the United States in its role as the "primary organizer of aggression" today.

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